REMARKS

Claim 1 is being amended herein for consistency with the amendment to claim 1 made in the response filed January 21, 2003, to the Final Office Action dated October 21, 2002. In the response filed January 21, 2003, the third step in claim 1, which originally recited: "the fiber material is dried", was amended to read: --the fiber material is introduced to a paper machine and formed into a web--. However, the recitation "the derivative is allowed to be bonded to the fibrous raw material prior to drying the fibrous material" was not amended. The amendment to claim 1 made herein changes this recitation to --the derivative is allowed to be bonded to the fibrous raw material prior to the fibrous material being formed into a web--.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attachment is captioned **"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."**

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

Ronald J. Kubovcik
Reg. No. 25,401

Atty. Case No. LAIN-033
The Farragut Building
Suite 710
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: (202) 887-9023
Fax: (202) 887-9093
RJK/cfm

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. **(Amended Three Times)** A method of producing a modified fiber product, according to which method

- cellulosic raw material is formed into a fiber suspension,
- components modifying the properties of fibers are added to the fiber suspension and
- the fiber material is introduced to a paper machine and formed into a web,

characterized in that

- an alkyl derivative of cellulose, which is water-soluble in mainly alkaline conditions, is mixed into the fiber suspension in alkaline conditions before introducing the fiber suspension to the paper machine, the derivative being at least partly dissolved in water, and
- the derivative is allowed to be bonded to the fibrous raw material prior to **[**~~drying~~**]** the fibrous material **being**

formed into a web so that the bonded cellulose derivative can not be washed off with water.